Law College Professors and Political Movements.

135. **MR. M. N. PILLAI** (*Trivandrum*): (1) Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether the members of the staff of the Law College have been prohibited from taking part in political or *quasi*-political movements;

(*b*) whether they will lay on the table the full text of the G. O. on the subject; and

(*c*) what they mean by *quasi*-political movements?

(2) Are the Government aware that the late Mr. Kochukrishna Marar and Messrs. E. J. John, K. G. Sesha Aiyar and others had taken part in criticising particular acts of the Government in open public meetings when they were members of the Law College staff?

(3) Will they be pleased to state what is the special reason for issuing the present order?

(4) Are the Government aware that several members of the staff took part in the meeting at Tampanur which criticised Regulation I of 1095?

(5) Are the Government aware that the present Head Sirkar Vakil was one of the signatories to the notice convening the meeting?

(6) Are the Government aware that for the last 25 years free latitude of action was given to the Law College Professors to participate in political movements?

(7) Are the members of the staff of the Law College eligible for pension and are the Service Regulations applicable to them?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (1) (*a*) The Government have issued a communication to say that they consider it improper that a paid servant of theirs should participate in political or *quasi*-political movements and that, if any such person wishes to have this liberty, he should choose between such liberty and the retention of his appointment under the Government.

(*b*) A copy * of the communication to the Acting Chief Justice on the subject is laid on the table.

(*c*) The Government have used the word "*quasi*-political" in its ordinary sense.

(2) The Government note the information furnished by the member.

(3) An occasion recently occurred when the privilege was abused.

(4) The answer is in the negative.

(5) The Government have no information.

(6) Yes; such latitude was permitted so long as the privilege was not abused.

(7) The answer to both parts is in the negative.

* *Vide* Appendix VI—page 475.

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Appendix V.—(*concld.*)

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112	The Malankara Catholica Dutan (Malabar Catholic Messenger) ...	5
113	The Atmabodhini ...	5

Appendix VI.

***Vide* Answer to Question No. 135.**

Confidential.

Trivandrum,
14th July 1926.

My dear Mr. Raman Tampi,

With reference to your D. O. dated 30-6-1926, forwarding Mr. ——'s reply dated 28-6-26 explaining the course adopted by him in participating in the meeting held in the Tampanur Hall on 15th Edavam 1101, I write to inform you that Government accept the explanation of Mr.——that he took part in the meeting in the honest belief that he was entitled to do so. The Government, however, wish it to be understood that they consider it improper that a paid servant of theirs should participate in political or *quasi*-political movements, and that, if any such person wishes to have this liberty, he should choose between such liberty and the retention of his appointment under Government. I request you will be so good as to communicate this decision of Government to the Principal and Professors of the Law College.

Yours sincerely,
R. KRISHNA PILLAI,

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